



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

[NPS-WASO-CR-HPS- NPS0034375; PPWOCRADP1, PRN00HP12.CS0000, XXXP104214; OMB Control Number 1024-0009]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Historic Preservation

Certification Application

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the National Park Service (NPS) are proposing to revise an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

ADDRESSES: Please provide a copy of your comments to the NPS Information Collection Clearance Officer (ADIR-ICCO), 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, (MS - 242) Reston, VA 20191 (mail); or phadrea_ponds@nps.gov (email). Please reference OMB Control Number 1024-0009 in the subject line of your comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information about this ICR by mail, contact Brian Goeken, Chief, Technical Preservation Services, 1849 C St. NW, Mail Stop 7243, Washington, DC 20240; or by email at brian_goeken@nps.gov; or by telephone at 202-354-2033. Please reference OMB Control Number 1024-0009 in the subject line of your comments.

Individuals in the United States who are deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may dial 711 (TTY, TDD, or TeleBraille) to access telecommunications relay services. Individuals outside the United States should

use the relay services offered within their country to make international calls to the point-of-contact in the United States. You may also view the ICR at <http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (PRA, 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) and 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), all information collections require approval under the PRA.

As part of our continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burdens, we invite the public and other Federal agencies to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility.

(2) The accuracy of our estimate of the burden for this collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.

(3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

(4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of response.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public

record. We will include or summarize each comment in our request to OMB to approve this ICR. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives Program encourages private-sector investment in the rehabilitation and re-use of historic buildings. Through this program, underutilized or vacant buildings throughout the country of every period, size, style, and type have been rehabilitated and reused in a manner that maintains their historic character. To be eligible for tax incentives for historic buildings, a building must be listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); or located in a registered historic district and certified by the NPS as contributing to the historic significance of that district. A registered historic district is any district listed on the NRHP; or a state or local district if the district and the enabling statute have also been certified by the NPS. The NRHP is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation.

Section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code requires that the Secretary of the Interior certify to the Secretary of the Treasury upon application by owners of historic properties for Federal tax benefits: (a) the historic significance of the property and (b) that the rehabilitation work is consistent with its historic character. The NPS administers the program with the Internal Revenue Service in partnership with the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs). The NPS uses the information collected in the Historic Preservation Certification

Application (Forms 10-168, 10-168a, 10-168b, and 10-168c) to evaluate the condition and historic significance of buildings undergoing rehabilitation and to evaluate whether or not the rehabilitation work meets the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The program is moving towards an electronic system (SharePoint site) for the submission and review process of the application within the next fiscal year, 2023.

Regulations codified in 36 CFR part 67 contain a requirement for completion of an application form. The NPS uses the information collected on the application form to allow the authorized officer to determine if the project is qualified to obtain historic preservation certifications from the Secretary of the Interior. These certifications are necessary for an applicant to receive substantial federal tax incentives authorized by section 47 of the Internal Revenue Code. These incentives include a 20% federal income tax credit for the rehabilitation of income-producing historic buildings and an income tax deduction for the charitable donation of easements on historic properties. The Internal Revenue Code also provided a 10% federal income tax credit for the rehabilitation of non-historic, nonresidential buildings built before 1936. An owner of a non-historic building in a historic district must also use the application to obtain a certification from the Secretary of the Interior that his or her building does not contribute to the significance of the historic district before claiming this lesser tax credit for rehabilitation. The 10% credit was repealed as part of the 2017 tax reform legislation but may remain in effect under certain transition rules.

SHPOs are the first point of contact for property owners wishing to use the rehabilitation tax credits. They help applicants determine if a historic building is eligible for Federal or State historic preservation tax incentives, provide guidance on an application before or after the project begins, and provide advice on

appropriate preservation work. SHPOs use Forms 10-168d and 10-168e to make recommendations to NPS.

In accordance with 36 CFR 67, we also collect information for:

- (1) certifications of State and local statutes (§67.8),
- (2) certifications of State or local historic districts (§67.9), and
- (3) appeals (§67.10).

Title of Collection: Historic Preservation Certification Application.

OMB Control Number: 1024-0009.

Form Number: NPS Forms 10-168, 10-168a, 10-168b, 10-168c, 10-168d, 10-168e.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals, organizations, companies and businesses, and State or tribal governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 11,874.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 11,874.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: Estimates vary from 3 to 51 hours depending on activity.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 126,577.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain a benefit.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: \$3,973,359 based primarily on application fees and other costs (includes: printing photographs and architectural drawings).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*).

Phadrea Ponds,

Information Collection Clearance Officer,

National Park Service.

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